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Statewide TV Broadcast of Supreme Court Special Session Next Week in Fresno

WHAT: Hundreds of Central Valley high school students will see the California Supreme Court in action next week, when the justices hear oral arguments in Fresno. This is the ninth educational program that the state's high court has held to increase public understanding of the courts. The two-day session will be televised live on the California Channel (www.calchannel.com), a public affairs cable network that reaches 5.6 million viewers, and on Valley PBS (www.valleypbs.org/courtoutreach), where educational materials are now posted. The session is hosted by the Court of Appeal, Fifth Appellate District.

WHEN: Tuesday, October 5—9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, October 6—9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Court of Appeal Courthouse
2424 Ventura Street
Fresno, California 93721 - Directions:
www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/courtsofappeal/5thDistrict/directions.htm

WHO: Students will participate from 8 counties in the Fifth Appellate District—Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Stanislaus, and Tulare. The Supreme Court has posted online briefs and detailed summaries of each case to be argued to aid students' understanding of the legal issues. A curriculum was developed by the Fresno County Office of Education.

CASES: The Supreme Court will consider important legal issues in the 8 cases to be argued. At about 10 a.m. on October 5, the court will hear arguments in *Martinez v. Regents*, which involves a 2001 state law that allows high school graduates without lawful immigration status to pay in-state tuition to attend state colleges and universities, a lower rate than out-of-state tuition. Two other civil cases concern a lawsuit over unpaid wages, and the "private attorney general" statute, which allows litigants to recover legal fees for bringing actions that benefit the general public. The justices also will hear two death penalty appeals and other criminal appeals that

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involve the right to speedy trial and a police search of a defendant's cell phone messages.

To view the Supreme Court's calendar, see

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/calendars/documents/SOCTA10.PDF> .

Detailed case summaries and legal briefs in each case are posted at

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courts/supreme/oralarg-1010.htm> .

POOLING: The *Fresno Bee* will serve as the pool photographer. California Channel will provide pooling for TV and radio stations outside the Court of Appeal building in Fresno, as well as satellite coordinates. Call 916-444-9792 for more information.

PRESS SEATS: For press seats or other information, contact Lynn Holton, Supreme Court Public Information Officer, at Lynn.Holton@jud.ca.gov, or Charlene Ynson, Clerk/Administrator of the Court of Appeal, at Charlene.Ynson@jud.ca.gov.

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